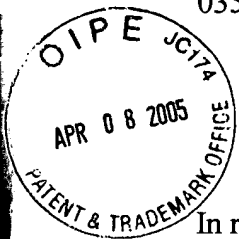


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03500.017467

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: T. Dougherty |
| TAKANORI MATSUDA ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2834 |
| Appln. No.: 10/632,913 |) | |
| | : | |
| Filed: August 4, 2003 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: ACTUATOR AND LIQUID |) | |
| DISCHARGE HEAD, AND METHOD | : | |
| FOR MANUFACTURING LIQUID |) | |
| DISCHARGE HEAD | : | April 8, 2005 |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action dated March 8, 2005.

In the Office Action, it was alleged that the inventions of Group I (Claims 1-13), drawn to "an actuator or device with an actuator," classified in class 310, subclass 363, and Group II (Claim 14), drawn to "a method for manufacturing a liquid discharge head," classified in class 29, subclass 25.35, are distinct for the reasons given in the Office Action.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that the two groups of claims are closely related and that a proper search of any of the claims of one group would likely include a search


of the claims of the other group. Thus, it is submitted that all of the claims can be searched simultaneously and that a duplicative search with possibly inconsistent results may occur if the restriction requirement is maintained. Therefore, in the interest of economy, both for the Office and Applicant, withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully solicited.

Nevertheless, in order to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.143, Applicant provisionally elects the claims of Group I, namely, Claims 1-13.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. Office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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